

FRONTISPIECE.



Boitard fecit

Engraving by J. B. Boitard

FRONTISPIECE.



Boitard fecit

Engraving by J. B. Boitard



722c

A  
TREATISE  
ON THE  
USE and ABUSE  
OF  
THE SECOND,  
Commonly called,  
THE STEWARD'S TABLE,  
IN  
FAMILIES of the FIRST RANK.

In Four PARTS.

CONTAINING,

- I. An Explanation of the Misteries of that sacred *Divan*; with a full Account of the several Arts, Lies, and Contrivances therein used to distress, and, if possible, starve the *lower Class* of Servants; together with the Compliments and Enquiries that pass in the giving and receiving Characters, whether from *House-keepers*, *House-Stewards*, or *Clerks* of the *Stable*, of the separate Servants under their *Inquisition*.
- II. An Account of their Routs, Cards, Visits, and private Pleasures; kept *Mistresses* by the Men, and kept *Husbands*, or *Gallants*, by the Females.
- III. An humble *Proposal* to the Nobility and Gentry, who think a Nest of these Sycophants a necessary Piece of Grandeur, to place on them certain Hieroglyphical Badges, distinguishing the several Places they fill, to prevent the *Lady's Woman* from being called my *Lady*, and the *Valet* from being called my *Lord*.
- IV. An *Attempt* to prove such an Order of People to be intirely useless, and through whose Means many of the greatest Estates have been reduced, the Credit of the Nobility and Gentry diminished, and several reputable Tradesmen ruined. Concluding, with an earnest Request to every Man of great Fortune to be his own Steward.

L O N D O N:

Printed for the AUTHOR, and sold by Mr. CARTER, the Bottom of *Clerges-street*, *Piccadilly*; and by all the Booksellers in *London* and *Westminster*. (Price 1s. 6d.)

11





To the MEMORY of the

RIGHT HONOURABLE

The L---d E-----O,

Who died in the Year 1740.

**A**S I am an uncommon Author, and as the following will be an uncommon Book, I am determined to have an uncommon Dedication, which shall not contain one Word of what all other Dedications are full of.

An Account of the Person, whose Memory I make my Patron, will be all the Dedication shall contain.

He was, when living, his own Steward, had one Ox, four Sheep, and one Calf, all eaten up in his House every Week ; he seldom came to Town, but when the Business of his King and Country called him thither ; and paid every Body their own with *his own Hands*. By being his own Steward,



he left so large an Estate, that his Successor employed Four to look after it, who soon reduced it to so low an Ebb, that the present Possessor has been obliged to put it to Nurse; and he himself makes five Saucers supply the Place of forty substantial Dishes.

If I finish the Work in as uncommon a Manner as I have the Dedication, I hope Nobody will blame

The AUTHOR.



If  
A 2  
he

Hands. By being his own Steward, every Body their own with his own Country called him thither; and paid when the Business of his King and Week; he seldom came to Town, but one Call, all entered House every Steward, had of his own, and his own



If the CAP fits you, wear it.

I AM not insensible, that the Work I have undertaken will meet with your Opposition, and incur the Censure and Resentment of a powerful and dangerous Set of People. Nevertheless, as the Foundation of it is laid in Truth, I am the less intimidated; hoping that my Person will be defended from Assassination by my Brethren of the Cloth, and that I shall not be hindered from getting my Bread in the Way I am in at present, by the Protection of the Nobility and Gentry, who, I flatter myself, will not think the worse of me for depending on their Favour, rather than a mean Submission to their Substitutes. So much for Introduction.

I shall proceed now, according to my Proposals, and begin with the first Part, namely, an Explanation of all the Misteries, &c. of that sacred Divan, commonly called the *Steward's*, or *second Table*. I am not Historian sufficient to recollect from what Custom this Order of Servants first took Place; but having lived  
many

many Years in the World, I may, from my own Memory, venture to say, that it is but of late Years that it has arrived to the enormous Degree of Power at this Time exercised; in order to support which, the first Step they take is, their entering into a solemn League, or Agreement, to keep each other's Secrets, and to resent, with the utmost Unanimity and Rigour, any Affront, that by a lower Servant, whether Male or Female, may be offered to one of these Gentry in their separate Capacity: This, in the common Phrase, is called *Hang-ing together*, and, indeed, I sincerely wish they were all *hanged together*, except the *English* Cook and House-keeper; which two I shall shew to be of Use, after depriving them a little of their present Power. Having settled this Tribunal to their intire Satisfaction and mutual Confidence, they endeavour to imprint the strongest Idea they possibly can of their own Consequence and Authority on the Minds of every menial Servant, which too commonly has such an Effect, that, if such Servants can but oblige *Monf. Drailirb*, or *Mr. Swehttam*, they care but little for my Lord, or Sir *Paul*; for they well know, that their good Living in their present Place, or Character to another, depends for the Generality upon the former Gentlemen, not their Lords or Masters. If one of these unhappy Underlins should offend, or grow weary of his Yoke, and there remains no Probability of bringing him to the requisite Subjection, he is to be parted with;

it



it may so happen that the Fellow may be diligent in his Place; never be absent when his Lord wants him; or perhaps may be useful about his Lord's Person; (which is thought the highest Crime, as it excites the strongest Passion, namely, the Jealousy of my Lord's Favour) then how to get this Wretch discharged is the main Point. If my Lord approves of the Servant, he will give Ear to no idle Insinuations, but give the Rascal a fair Chance to excuse himself by a Face to Face Accusation; then this Risque must not be run, but my Lord must find the Fault, and Mr. *Swehltam* will find a Means to aggravate it, he being a true Representation of the *Devil*, who first leads a Man to sin, and then takes a Pleasure in the punishing him. Accordingly Mr. *Swehltam* takes an Opportunity of dropping a Hint, that my Lord spends the Day, or Evening, in some Business, when the devoted Wretch's immediate Attendance will not be expected; the poor Creature, willing to see a Relation or Friend, or perhaps to regale himself and his fellow female Servant with twelve Pennyworth of a Play, rejoices at this Opportunity, and so is sure to be undone. He takes his Pleasure with Security, and without the Permission of Mr. *Swehltam*, whose Dependency we suppose him to be throwing off, otherwise his being discharged would not be necessary; but on his Return, he finds my Lord has frequently enquired for him, and was much incensed at his Absence. Conscious  
of

of his own Neglect, he dares not see my Lord's Face, and the next News is, Mr. *Swebbtam* either strips, and turns him out immediately, or gives him a Month's Warning; if the latter, as he finds it in vain to oppose his Authority any longer, he, with the utmost Submission, begs his Interest to reinstate him, excusing himself, by saying he thought he should not be wanted; as you know, Sir, you yourself said, that my Lord was going out for the whole Evening.—So much the worse; my Lord altered his Intention. Besides you should have asked me Leave, and then the Fault would have been mine; but as it is, I can do you no Service, and I hope this will teach you to behave with more Prudence in another Place. Not only so, but you took Mrs. *Stretlaw's* Maid with you; and had I any Influence, she should be discharged too; that he before knew was intended, and could be brought about with little Difficulty; for, being Mrs. *Stretlaw's* own Maid, she could send her packing at pleasure. So much for the getting away Rebels from the House.

Those in the Stables are parted from with less Trouble; I mean, the lower Sort of them, such as second Coachman, Postilions, and Groom's Boys; two general Accusations being laid to their Charge, namely, Drunkenness, and carrying Victuals out of the House; but the getting away a favourite Coachman, or Groom, is a Master-piece of Chicanery, and requires the most profound Skill and Strength  
of

of the whole Cabal; nay, I have known it a Work of so much Time, that they have had their own Cannon turned upon them, and been caught in their own Snare.

The first Offence a Coachman, or Groom, can commit, is against the Clerk of the Stables, or the Superior, who acts in the Capacity of Purveyor, and that is commonly, finding Fault with the Quantity or Quality of the Horse-provender, and an absolute Refusal of giving up his Knowledge in the Goodness and Sufficiency of it. If this Piece of Mutiny, does not immediately subside, and if you are Proof against good Words, and an Offer of one Thing which I will not name, then you must go; though there is still a greater Offence which is the Coachman's refusing to lend the Coach, or the Groom a Horse to use at their Pleasure; and the Means to get rid of you are consulted over the Dinner-Bottle. One of the Stable-boys generally waits at this Table, and after he has been tampered with by a Glass of Wine, or a Piece of some Rarity, and the Promise of a good Christmas-Box, if nothing can be got from him, no matter whether true or false, that will answer the Tribunal's Purpose, he is either got rid of, or severely threatened, if he presumes to mention a Word of what has past; the terrified Boy, knowing their Power, holds his Tongue, and to work they go upon their Invention. The first Thing they consult is, how well the Criminal is established with my Lord or Lady; if he stands

B

well



well with my Lord, the first Attack is made by the Valet, who drops loose Hints, and Inuendoes, which are aggravated by the Clerk of the Stables; but then perhaps my Lady may be timorous, and having experienced the Care and Skill of this Domestic, is loth to risque her own Life and her Childrens, by trusting them in the Hands of a sober, diligent, Country Lad, recommended by Mr. Clerk to supply their Coachman's Place, as being more liable through Ignorance, to be imposed upon, and consequently fitter for the Clerk's Purpose; if that be the Case, then the House-keeper and Lady's Woman go to Work; the First complains that the Coachman is disorderly in the House, finds fault with the Provision, and will never let the Maid-servants alone; but is always talking obscenely, and breeding Disturbances: In short, that he is not fit to live in a civilized Family. This my Lady promises shall be thought on, but not being immediately attended to, Mrs. *Rem-rass*, my Lady's Woman, repeats the foregoing Accusation, with this Addition, that she is informed, though the Coachman is a married Man; yet he makes a common Practice of having Women lie over the Stable; and not only so, but suffers his own Wife and Family to starve, while he supports a Parcel of these lewd Creatures, with whom he spends all the Time he is not out with the Coach in an Alehouse, where he of Course must get drunk. To a Lady of Virtue this last is the surest

surest Attempt, and most commonly successful; though, in one Instance, I knew it fail, only by the Lady determining she would be under her present Coachman's Care during her Pregnancy, but that when she was delivered, he should go; in which Time he was so assiduous, and an Opportunity offering to preserve his Lady's Life, at the Hazard of his own, that he was brought to a fair Hearing before his Lord and Lady, honourably acquitted and reinstated, and had the Satisfaction to see his Accusers turned a grazing. I believe this may be the only Instance, and therefore I have mentioned it. I myself, although intirely innocent, suffered, after all other Efforts proved ineffectual, by the Malice and Accusation of my Lady's Woman only; though I really believe, could I have seen my Lady, she would have done me Justice; but that was impossible, as she was then thought to be at the Point of Death.

The Attack made on the Groom is solely to my Lord; if he be in the Running-stable, secret Hints of his riding Booty are scattered abroad, which is the highest Crime he can be guilty of, and though perhaps the principal Reason why he is aimed at to be discharged was, because he would not take a Bribe.

The Hunting-groom is accused of stopping at Alehouses, during the Time of his Exercise, &c. but the principal Accusation is Drunkenness, and Disobedience.

Having thus demonstrated the Means of removing the lower Servants, I am now come to that Part, where I shall shew the almost Impossibility of their getting another Place, without a Reconciliation to those in Authority: After the Ceremony of a Glass of Wine, or a Dish of Chocolate between the enquiring Steward and answering Steward, if the Acquaintance be but small; but if to an intimate, an After-noon-Bottle, or spending the Evening, the very first Question is, to know if the Person enquired after, whether Male or Female, was obedient, and did not complain of the Yoke; if they did, all other Enquiries immediately cease, and the Discourse turns upon the Method taken to get the audacious Delinquent discharged, and a Commendation, or Amendment of that Method immediately ensues, with an absolute Assurance, that the Party shall starve for them; but, if a Servant has behaved well in this main Point of Obedience, he is sure to be immediately provided for, be his other Character as it may; and I once knew an unhappy Female, who, though in every Place she lived was parted with for the same Fault; yet never *lay out*, as the Phrase is, longer than she *lay in*, and her good and bad Fortune, each Time, was to be attributed to the thorough Obedience she paid in every Respect to her Superiors.

All this may be thought Fiction, and some may ask, how came you to be so well acquainted with these Affairs? You are not supposed

to



to have been intrusted with their Secrets. The first Information was gathered from an old Acquaintance of mine, in high Credit with them, who, to keep so, never spoke to me in Public, but at our private Meetings gave me all the Hints he had collected in 19 Year's Attendance, upon a Succession of these Gentry; but the fullest Information I, or any one could have, was, from an elderly, discreet Lady's Woman, in a very grand, yet sober, well-governed Family, who, having a Dissemper upon her that was beyond the Skill of the Apothecary, after the strongest Injunctions of Secrecy, and Promises of Ease and Rewards, if I was faithful, begged of me to introduce her to Mr. S——y, which I did, and she was compleatly recovered. Finding me true to that Trust of so much Confidence, she afterwards placed an unbounded one in me, and I must say, in Gratitude, that just before her Death, she made me a considerable Present, and I soon after had not only Reason to lament her Loss, but was confirmed in the Opinion I now have, that she was the only Person who remained in that Station for any Term of Years in one Place, that had one single Grain of Honesty.

I hope I have, to the Satisfaction of my Brethren, fulfilled the first Part of my Proposals, and as I have placed them in their full Swing of Power, I shall now, according to my second Proposition, give some Account of the Pleasures they take in Consequence of that  
Sta-

Station. The grand Concern is to mimic their Superiors in every Pleasure, and a strong Emulation to exceed in the Practice of every Vice. Does the Man of Fortune keep one Mistress, his Valet keeps two. Does the wealthy, antiquated Dame depend upon a chosen Friend; so does her House-keeper at the same Years. I own, that the Lady's Woman exceeds her Lady in Vice; for unless I know it, I will not believe any Lady has a Gallant; but at this Time, I know three Lady's Women, who have each Two, supported at their own Expence, and what one of them saves from an old Fellow of Seventy, who thinks her true to him. They pay and receive Visits; regularly correspond by written, or printed Cards; but the highest Enjoyment they have is a Rout, of which the following is a Description.

I had once a Country Lad for a Helper, who asked me, if he could be spared a few Hours in the Evening from his common Business in the Stable. As I knew he was quite a Stranger to the Town, and had no Relations in it, I thought it my Duty to enquire what Concerns he could have, that occasioned this Request; he begged to be excused from giving me any Reason, but assured me he would take care to be at the Stables in Time to do his Work, when I came Home with the Coach, with which I was then going to carry my Lord and Lady to the Masquerade. I found him in his Place at my Return, and  
when

when it was Time to go to Bed, I offered, as usual, to put the double Lock on the Door. I perceived him change Colour, and demanded his Reason. He, not being well enough acquainted with his Employer's Art, had no Lye ready, but told me the real Truth, which was, that Mrs. *Remraff* had ordered him to be with a Chair at Twelve o'Clock to fetch her from what he called a Merry-making in *Grosvenor-square*: I took the Affair at once, and let him out; and following him at a Distance, saw him descend the Area of a large House, where he was presently admitted, and stayed near an Hour; when he came up the same Way he went down, and immediately called Mrs. *Remraff*'s Chair, before which he walked home with a Flambeaux, and for his Fidelity was provided with a Lodging that Night in the House. The next Day, I called him to Account for lying out, to which he answered, that Mrs. *Remraff* had promised to excuse him to her Lady; for that it was by her Orders he was allowed to attend her, (meaning Mrs. *Remraff*) when he could be spared, and that, in my Absence, he had frequently acted in the same Capacity. I was too well acquainted with her Power, and held my Tongue.

Another favourite Gratification is, the hurrying Junkets at the Houses of the several Tradesmen to the respective Families. They run thither without any Ceremony; drink a Dish of Chocolate, and away; at last, with a little



little Persuasion, a Time is fixed on to spend the Evening, with a pressing Request, that they will invite any Acquaintance of proper Rank. This is carried so far, that a House-full of these Gentry is easily got together. I once counted above twenty Chairs that carried Company of this Sort from a certain Block-head's in *Bond-street*. This Invitation goes quite round, and each Tradesman endeavours to excel in the Elegance of his Entertainment, in hopes that he that treats the highest shall have the best Chance to keep the Custom to himself. Who pays for it may be easily guessed.

The little Morning-assemblies, held in and about St. *James's* Market, are in themselves, mighty pretty. About Ten or Eleven o'Clock a Knot, chiefly of the Males, meet together. The Butcher, Poulterer, and Fishmonger, contribute to provide a Bit of a Relish, and a little Tiff, which is no sooner ended, but each Tradesman receives his Orders for what Part of the Provisions he has before sold is to be sent to Mrs. *A*—, or to Mr. *B*—; then the Juggle of the Bill is finished, with a Promise, that the Tradesman may depend it shall be passed, for which Promise the Steward not only lives well, but is well paid. I once heard a Hint given to a very honest Butcher, and a Man of undeniable Character, that this Method was not strictly just; and the Answer he made was; Why, what can we do? If I don't oblige them, another will; and without it, no one can serve a Nobleman with any Profit.

Profit. Nay, a Fishmonger of my Acquaintance, in a few Years, made his Fortune, by taking and furnishing a House, contiguous to his Shop, for no other Purpose but what I have before related.

I now come, according to the third Part of my Design, to address myself to the Nobility and Gentry, and to endeavour at a Plan, which will prevent them, both by Day and Night, from being deprived of the proper Respect that ought by every one to be shewn them. I own it a Piece of great Presumption for a Person, in my low Station of Life, to attempt giving Advice to those, whom Providence has made so much my Superiors; but, for I remember to have read an Observation, made by a very great Author, that every Man who was made wiser, no matter by what Channel, was certainly the Gainer; I hope that will in some Measure plead my Excuse; and, as a long and immediate Dependence on the Set of People whom I am about to expose, has made me sensible, that what I am going to propose will be useful, I am the more emboldened to undertake it. I have seen many a Gentleman, who had Occasion to apply to Noblemen on Business, to whose Persons they were intire Strangers, blush, when they found they had given the Title due to the Lord to his Valet, who has had Impudence enough not to undeceive them, in Hopes to be acquainted with what they came about; till he was obliged to give some Answer; and when he began to

C

speak,

ſpeak, a Perſon of ſmall Penetration might eaſily find his Error; and I know not how this can be prevented, but by my Plan; for theſe Creatures (as I ſaid before) imitate their Superiors in every Point of Dreſs, even to the moſt expenſive Lace and Ruffles; and as the Appearance which a Man makes is the firſt Thing that takes the Eye, it is not to be ſuppoſed, that every one can be a Judge whether the Embroidery enfolds the Body of a Peer, or the moſt worthleſs Carcaſe breathing.

The inimitable Author of the *Spectators* ſaw this Calamity, tho' in his Time it had not arrived to the enormous Height it is now at, and therefore ſtrenuouſly oppoſed the common Cuſtom of giving a Gentleman's or Lady's caſt-off Cloaths *to be worn* by their Servants; ſaying, That, when they got them on their Backs, it made them imagine, that, becauſe they had their Maſter's Cloaths on, they had his Conſequence, which led them into the Commiſſion of many Vices.

Now, what I propoſe will ſet all theſe Miſtakes to rights. A Livery is a Badge of Servitude, by which every one, who wears it, is diſtinguiſhed to be in that Station, and dares not preſume to act in a Sphere above that Station; if he does, he is liable to be properly rebuked; and can by no Means aſſume to himſelf a higher Appearance than really belongs to him, *viz.* That of being a Servant, and of Courſe dependent on the Bounty of ſome one, who not only feeds, but cloaths him.

This



This is a Check both upon his Words and Actions; it prevents him from mixing in public Assemblies with People of the first Rank, where every one may be admitted for 10s. 6d. or a Crown; and I may venture to say, it would give a Lady of Quality great Uneasiness to have known, that on such a Night, she sat at the Opera with a *French* Cook on one Side of her, and a Mademoiselle on the other; and this has many Times been the Case: Now, as a Livery is a Badge to the inferior Servants, if these superior ones make a necessary Distinction of Grandeur, let them have Badges too; and, whether in or out of these respective Employments, be obliged to wear them; or, if found without them, be usefully punished. As for Instance; let a Rope, I won't advise whether it shall be made of Hemp or Silk, be fixed round the Neck of the *French* Valet, at the End of which, let there be fastened a Pair of Curling-Tongs, pendent to his Stomach; then, whoever meets him will know his Employ: A Kitchen Knife will become the *French* Cook better than a Sword; and let it hang near his Heart, and rather than he should not be distinguished, I will give my Consent to have it stuck into it; there to remain, 'till any of the Country acts honestly, I need not fear being poisoned by them; for I plainly foresee all the Meals I can get, after this Publication, must be eat in some cheap Cook's-Shop, and I will take care to eat nothing that I think one of that Country has had

C 2

any

any Hand in dressing. And here I cannot contain my Surprise, how an *English* Nobleman, of the first Rank and greatest Consequence to his Country, who keeps one of these Rascals to prepare his Food, can with any Peace make a hearty and secure Meal, after the good News of our Fleet having been victorious over his Cook's Countrymen; for, as a Spirit of Revenge is more or less implanted in the Breasts of all Men, the *French* Nation have the Addition of an under-handed, secure Method of shewing their's; and it certainly is possible for one of these Villains to poison, at some single Entertainments, 100 of the first Men in Rank and Abilities, that perhaps any Kingdom ever produced; and I do verily believe, that if Mr. P——*tt* kept a *French* Valet, he would long since have had his Throat cut by him; unless the Servants are *French* in general.

I judge these are the Principals that are so; though notwithstanding what much abler Pens than mine have wrote upon this Subject, I begin to fear, that they soon will generally be *French*, from an Instance I met with the other Day, which was not only three *French* Footmen behind, but a *French* Coachman driving an *English* Chariot, who, I sincerely hope, may break both his Master's Legs, and his own, and Three Countrymens Necks. This is at present the only Case of this Sort that I know; and if these Hints, though they must be expected to be low, though true, have but Effect sufficient to starve one of our inveterate

terate Enemies, I shall think myself amply rewarded for all my Labour.

As I am willing (the Cook and Valet excepted) to hope the rest of the superior Servants may be Natives of this Island, I would pay them some Deference as Countrymen, however they may be tainted, by a constant Conversation with these my inveterate Enemies; therefore I would have the Land-Steward wear a golden Pen in a conspicuous Part of his Body, with a blue Ribbon, on which shall be embroidered, in golden Letters, these Words: *Trust me with Caution*: The House-Steward should have a silver Pen, placed in the same Manner, with a green Ribbon, on which in silver Letters stich'd shall be expressed: *Eat up your Pudding, and hold your Tongue*: The two Clerks, one of the Kitchen, the other of the Stables, must have Pens likewise; for nothing can be done without them prudently, their greatest Knowledge consisting in that: The Clerk of the Kitchen's shall be Brass, to denote Impudence, and his Ribbon yellow, to denote Jealousy, the Letters thereof in Green, to denote Deceit, and the Words, *We are all united*. The Clerk of the Stables shall have a common Pen, a black Ribbon, and a Curry-comb in Miniature, on which shall be engraved: *Joyn with me, and be content*. The Butler shall have a Claret-coloured Ribbon, and a silver Cork-screw, and his Motto: *As you oblige me*. As to the Groom of the Chambers, his only Use being to rob an

Up-



Upholsterer, and I not being so well acquainted with his Office as with the others, I can think of no better a Mark for him, than a small Pillow tied to his A——e.

I have now considered the Males in their proper Ranks; I come now to the Females. The House-keeper is ranked the first among them; a Bunch of Keys is a proper Emblem of her Office; let them be fastened to her Neck, like a Solitair, with a black Velvet Collar; on the Front of which shall be devised these Words: *Tell me all.* I know not how to provide a proper Piece of Ornament, or a proper Motto for the Lady's Woman; it would cost me more Fire, Candle, and Study, than the whole Work beside. I have some little Obligation to the Memory of one dead; but as that is greatly over-balanced by the Injuries I have received from many living, I must not let that pretty Soul go unprovided for. Tho' 'tis Two o'Clock in the Morning, and my Fire out, and not two Inches of Candle left, yet I cannot go to Bed in Quiet, 'till I have done with her. Thanks to my good Genius! at last I have it: As she takes the most Pains to bedeck her Person, she shall have her Nose bored, to which shall be hung a Cluster of small Jewels, representing a Pincushion; on the Middle of her Forehead shall be affixed a large black Velvet Patch, with these Words, *A Head to contrive*, painted thereon with Vir-million; and on her left Side, upon her upper Garment, shall be placed a Picture at full Length,

Length, the *Deity* of Mischief, with this Motto: *A Heart to conceal*; and on her Right-arm, a Fancy-bracelet, with these Words: *A Hand to execute.*

Having thus placed on them their proper Badges of Distinction, I shall now attempt to prove such an Order of People intirely uselefs. I believe even their Lords and Masters frequently meet with, or hear of many Instances of their Insolence, or Inhumanity, though by having a Freedom of Access to them, they find Ways and Means to excuse themselves. The other Day I met with such an Instance of Pride and Cruelty from one of these Wretches, as I am sure the Baronet he served would not have committed; but had he been acquainted with it, for his own Safety, he would have severely punished him for it. — It was as follows:

In the Close of the Evening, I was walking to my Garret. In *Albemarle-Street*, I met with a Chariot, with a remarkable fine Pair of Horses, and having, as I walked, observed a Hole in the Street-pavement, I made a Motion to the Driver to avoid it, which he not immediately regarding, one of the Horses dropt his Leg therein, and was much hurt; as I knew them to be the Property of one of the most worthy Coach-masters in *London*, I need not mention his Name, (as he is equally known by his Character as Name) I went to the House, opposite to the Place where the Accident happened, and to which

which that Part of the Pavement belonged, to tell them of the Accident, and to inform myself who was liable to make my worthy Friend the Coach-master Amends for the Damage he might in all Probability have received by his Horse being hurt. A Servant Girl was talking at the Door to an Acquaintance. I ask'd her who lived at the House? She told me, Sir J——n N——t. Where is the Porter, pray? Waiting at the Second Table. Have you any Body acts in the Office of House-steward? Yes, Mr. M——l; but he is at Dinner, and must not be disturbed, unless Sir John himself wants him. I told the young Woman my Business, and desired she would immediately go to him; she said, it was as much as her Place was worth to go into the Steward's Room, unless the House-keeper sent for her; but if I would wait 'till Mr. M——l had dined, she believed I might speak with him. I waited above an Hour, without the Door, when the Porter, with a Plate of Victuals in his Hand, let me in amongst the rest. In the Plate was a Wood-cock Pye. I repeated my Business to him, and likewise told him who I wanted. His Answer was, he was drinking his Bottle with some Company that dined with him; but begged I would stay 'till he came up; otherwise, he, the Porter, should be blamed for not having taken Notice of the Hole, tho' his Orders were to be constantly within-doors. I complied with the Man's Request, and he, to make my Attendance less irksome, offered me



me Part of his own Meal. A Belly-full and a good Fire are Things few Authors, Ancient or Modern, were, or are well acquainted with, and being really hungry, I accepted the Porter's kind Invitation. As I was a Stranger, he offered me some of his Pye; I fell too greedily, but could not swallow the second Mouthful, being used to wholesome, tho' spare Diet, and my Dainty stank most abominably; the poor Man saw my Confusion, tho' I endeavoured to conceal it; and as an Excuse, he assured me, he had purloin'd it from an Entertainment the preceding Night in the Steward's Room, at which he waited; and he really thought it to be very sweet, as he never knew any Thing bad set upon that Table. However, he proposed a Pot of Porter, as the best Cure for my Disappointment, telling me he must bring no Small-beer into his Hall, being forbid to give any away. I complied with my Friend's Hint, and my last Three-pence went to wash down his Meal, being determined to see this great Magog of a House-steward. At the Expence of three Hours Attendance, he made his Appearance. By a certain Meanness and Suspicion on the Countenance of these People, that by a long Acquaintance I am arrived at the Master-piece of discerning, I could make shift to distinguish it was not Sir John, though he was dress'd in Lace, and began to open my Business; his Answer was, he would see about it in the Morning. I remonstrated the Necessity of placing a Light

D

there

there all Night; he bid me not be impertinent; sure he knew what to do. I went my ways; but was determined to see if a Light was placed; and made it my Business purposely to pass that Way at 11 o'Clock, at Night, when there was no Light, though I make no Doubt but a Watch for the whole Night might be charged in his Account. A broken Limb to one poor labouring Man is, in my Opinion, an Affair of more Consequence than the Lives of Ten such Rascals could make an Amends for.

The lowest Part of the Creation is a Link as necessary as the highest in Nature's Chain. A Chimney-sweeper's Boy, I call a Pin in the great Building of the World's Oeconomy, and I will plainly make it appear, that from the lowest to the highest, every one is more or less concerned in a proper Attention to what I am going to assert; and if I am so happy as to convince one Man of superior Rank, that my Assertion is useful, I shall be contented.

A Chimney-sweeper's Employ is properly a Calling, though in the City of *London*, they look upon it as a Trade, obliging every Master who employs such Servants to be himself free thereof, and permit him both to bind, and make his Apprentices free. There is not a Master of that Trade or Employment, call it which you will, that sweeps a House of Chimneys, but himself, nay even his Boy, is, and has been imposed on by Stewards of some Denomination or other. As for Example, a Master of this necessary and preservative Employ

is set to work to sweep, or cause to be swept, a House of Chimneys; he takes care to have his Work well performed; he delivers his Account of the Number of Chimneys, so swept, to the House-steward; he answers, I will look it over; call again; the Master calls again and again; the Steward is not at Leisure; at last, he catches him flying, and will not part with him. Then, Oh! Mr. Soot, I have looked over your Bill; you charge 62 Chimneys, and I gave the House-maid positive Orders not to have two, in such and such a Room, swept, therefore I cannot suffer my Lord to be so imposed on. Mr. Soot replies, he swept them all as usual; and had no Orders to the contrary; but really it is a great Disappointment to him, and rather than be without the Money for the Bill, as he wants it, he will abate the 2s. which, with three more for Poundage, reduces the whole Sum to 2l. 17s. There is an Abatement of 5s. which must be saved from the Belly of the poor Boy, which plainly manifests that he is injured.

I might first have mentioned the Black-shoe Boy; even he must be a Sufferer. A Porter is ordered by the Lord to be sent with a favourite Pointer to an Inn; as he must be paid according to the Worth of his Time, that will not admit of Profit sufficient; but a Shoe-cleaner or Walking-stationer, commonly call'd a Memorandum-Bookseller, will go Nine Miles for Six-pence and a Bit of Victuals, or a general Permission to warm himself at the



Servant's Hall-fire; then there is good Room to charge for extraordinary Care of the favourite Dog four Shillings; by which Mr. Steward gets only three Shillings and Sixpence.

I would ask any Pair of Chairmen, who carry what they call a weekly Fair, for which they are paid according to Agreement, whether they don't think, that where the Person they are to carry takes up four Hours of their Time, these second Quality take up Eight. Chairman! go to my Shoe-maker; he goes, is sent back again with another Message; then to my Mantua-maker, and my Milliner, with my visiting Cards of Compliments. I myself knew a Male of this Tribe, that had his Wig fetch'd and carried three Miles every Day.

I will now apply myself to my Brethren of the Cloth. Answer the Questions I shall ask to yourselves; don't so much as let it be known, that you even dare to read this Book. I own myself under Obligations to many of you; nay to every one of you, who enabled me to bring this Work into the World; and sorry should I be, sincerely sorry, if even a Postilion should be the worse for what I assert; and my sincere Wish is, that I may be made an Instrument to free you all from that insufferable Yoke of Bondage which you at present labour under. Your real Masters of every Rank, from a Lord to a Tradesman, sensible of the Advantage Providence has given them,  
feed,

feed, cloath, and pay you, and all the Return they expect is a necessarily honest, and diligent Discharge of the Trust committed to you; but these imaginary Masters, these Monsters, self-created, exact a Servitude equal to a *French* Tyranny: Tell me, my depressed Brethren, whose Garments are of as many Colours as that of *Joseph*, whose Servitude is equal to his, under his *Egyptian* Task-masters; tell me, I say, what low Arts are ye obliged to practise, to procure an uncomfortable Belly-full, deprived of the proper Sustainance allotted by your real Lords and Masters, thro' the Covetousness, Villainy, and Deceit of your imaginary Ones? Can you think, or imagine, your worthy Lords know your Distresses, your half-cold Meals, and not a Sufficiency of them; your coarse, unwholesome Diet, when he means to keep the Table of a Lord; your Want of Fire, Candle, and proper Small-beer to quench your Thirst? Do you imagine, that he tastes your Eight-shilling Beer, and finds no Fault, when he allows Twelve? No! a Barrel of the Best is reserved for his Substitutes; nay better than common, of which his, and their Lord is permitted to taste, who is happy to think, that his Domesticks quaff liberally of what he affords in common to All; he is permitted to drink of none that is sour, dead, and stinks; therefore thinks, and is glad to find, as he hopes, and pays for (but not to the Brewer) that yours is equally good. Does he know, that a Barrel of Ten-shilling Ale, the

Munifi-

Munificence of the Brewer, is lock'd from you? You know, you dare not to appear before him Drunk; then, if sober, it is intended at that Season, commonly inclement, to keep you warm, and to commemorate the highest Festival among Christians. — Does your real Lord know, that you are debarred of a vegetable Support necessary to dilute the acrimonious Particles of Flesh; I mean Greens, Potatoes, and Roots of all Kinds? No sure! he don't; he pays from Ten Shillings to Fifteen Shillings *per* Day for them, (but not to the Green-grocer) to whom then you guess I can tell. Does my Lord know, that, if a poor Woman is left to clean a House, with a few Coals to dry his Rooms, that those Coals are taken from *B——b* Street, and sold in *B——d* Street? But I do. You all know, and all that know me know, I know how many Times, after perilous and fatiguing Journeys, where the Life of a whole Family has been committed to my Care and Judgment, where, after both you and I have waited cold, hungry, and wet, for these Creatures dining, we have been forced to turn out again, without a proper Morfel; only what we could snatch, or obtain from the Bounty of our Landlords, (Landlords on the Road, you all know it) and when arrived to our Journey's End, several of you, my Brethren, have assisted me in the detecting these Villains, I can call them no better, in depriving me, and a poor, ragged, destitute Boy of one Third of the first Nobleman's Bounty in the Land.

They



They more or less know all this to be true; and I now say, it is impossible, that one Shilling can pass through their Hands, without creating a Profit to themselves. If you complain, what is the Answer? My Lord allows none; my Lord drinks the same; my Lord complains the Coals are consumed too fast; my Lady will allow you no more Candles; find your own Soap. One Towel a Week is sufficient; my Lady allows no more; can it be supposed my Lord or Lady knows any thing of the Matter? No! — but my Lord is accused of being mean; my Lady has a bad Name; the Devil would not live in such or such a Family. If your Bills for trivial Expences from whence no Profit can possibly arise are called for, you get a Friend to make it out, if you can't write yourselves; it is looked over, and found Fault with; this Article must be wrote in black Ink, that in Red; and when you have taken all Opportunities to see Mr. *Swehltam*, he has had no Time to get it passed, you want Two Guineas; he, with much Intreaties, supplies you, but wonders, so well as you live, how you can want Money; when he can put you off no longer, you are paid. He charges you with having received Two Guineas and a Half. You can neither read nor write; he produces your Receipt, wrote by him; and your Mark to it; you are glad to receive the Remainder, and though at the same Time you know you are robbed of Half a Guinea, dare not murmur for fear you should lose

lose your Place. Among the Services which many of you have had, answer me, If that is not all true ; and I will dare the whole Clan I oppose, to deny, upon Oath, that these Practices have never been used by some or other of them. If I durst mention Names and Families, I could, upon Oath, prove all I have asserted, or shall assert (even to the selling the Coals from the poor Woman) to be Truth. I cannot part with you, my worthy Friends of the Cloth, without giving you a Picture of one Gentleman of this Sort in particular ; and as I believe he is the King of the Class, I will give it you at full Length. I mean a *North-Britain*, who from the Sink of the whole Creation, much beneath a Black-shoe, and of a Class not so useful (to speak comparatively) as the Piece of Wood on which the Pin of the Building is formed, placed only to preserve the Edge of the Tool, has now the Management of the Domesticks ; nay the whole Management, I may say, of a D—k's Family, of the highest Extraction ; I mean, the D—ke of *B.* — His Concerns called him last Summer into the Country. The Repairing, and in a great Measure furnishing a noble House was intirely left to the Inspection of this Master. His Grace's Business being urgent, obliged him to travel post with one Servant, and left six Livery-servants in Town to wait his Return, which was quite uncertain. He now became intire Master, and presently shewed his Dependents, that he was for obliging them to work

work equal to the Labourers, and instead of ordering the Furniture from the respective Tradesmen, bought large Quantities at public and private Sales. This Transaction, if his Grace was acquainted with it, was placed to his View as a Piece of Oeconomy; but I know it was not so; for I am sure the S—n had no Pretensions to a Judgment adequate to what he undertook; and an Auctioneer never takes upon him to warrant the Goodness of what he sells by public Rouse; so no Reputation lay at Stake; and though this worthy Steward had so much Regard for his Master's Interest, yet he was so regardless of his own, as to suffer himself to be detected in having two W—s, the one living at E—b, the other in P—e.

Tradesmen of all Sorts already know what they are obliged to go through to get a small Profit, with great Submission, Hazard and Fatigue; but my Lord knows nothing of it; what I mean, is to inform his Lordship, who, if he does me the Honour to read these poor Productions of an oppressed Object, I hope will pardon whatever to his superior Judgment may appear amiss.

There is not one Tradesman to be named, but is dependent on these Wretches, to procure, and continue them a Nobleman's Custom; and when in the Possession of it, but is equally dependent on them to be paid his Bill; the first Agreement is the most abominable Method of bargaining for Poundage; and yet so far is

E

this



this Custom established, that now it is almost become a Law. Let an accidental, not a fixed Tradesman to the Family, but receive a Bill, by the immediate Order of my Lord, for any Thing he himself may have promiscuously bought, and see with what an eager Eye the Person who pays him looks to have his Returns. If the Tradesman thinks his Lord's Favour only accidental, and comes away with the whole Money, without offering to the Idol, the first Thing set about is, to find out any Family where this Man in his particular Branch may be established; then the Brother-Idol is told of the Indignity, and let him look to himself; for he must take great Care he is not ruined. Informations of this Kind fly as fast as Intelligence from one to another of the Bookseller's Trade of what one of that Fraternity has bid for a Parcel of Books, which you will find no other will outbid; so it is by this Nest of Sycophants, they have their regular Meetings, where the Behaviour of every respective Tradesman in this Point only is canvassed, and he encouraged or oppressed, according to that Standard. When a Bill is brought in, agreeable to the common Profits of Trade, with the Addition of what is to be given to Mr. *Swehltam*, that is not sufficient; fault is then sure to be found with the Commodity, or Performance, and the Bill said to be such, as by no Means can be passed; the Meaning of these Objections to a Tradesman, who knows he has done his Duty, and  
acted

acted with Integrity, is very obvious; they are no other, but a Hint to him, that he must pay something for having his own Money, which has long since been left in the Steward's Hands. This is not all, the Tradesman's House must be a perpetual Rendezvous of this Crew and their Acquaintance. The *Play* repeated in the Winter-time, and *Vaux Hall* and *Renelagh* Gardens in the Summer. What Trade can be named, that the fair Profits of it can support such a monstrous Expence? None that I ever heard of. Then, who must pay for all this? Why, my Lord to be sure.

I knew a Person exceedingly skilful in a particular Method of rectifying Chimneys, not properly built by the original Architect, to prevent them from smoaking. He was employed by a worthy Baronet, by an Order from his own Mouth, to look over his whole House of Chimneys, and do to them what he found necessary. He compleated his Work, and not immediately wanting his Money, deferred carrying his Bill in, 'till he knew the Family was going out of Town: When he thought himself quite certain of being paid, as it was the Custom of his Employer at that Time to discharge all his Tradesmen: His Bill amounted to 100*l*. which the Steward, though no Judge of the Artist's Excellence, thought very exorbitant, and at last, told Mr. S——— h*o*. He being sent for into the Country, on another Concern of the same Nature, at that Time let the Affair drop; but on his Return found

Sir R——w I——b was gone; but the Steward staid a few Days to pay any Tradesman that had not called. Mr. S——h asked if the Bill was passed: He told him no; but if he would bate Twenty Pounds, he had some Money, not particularly appropriated, and would pay him out of that. Mr. S——h refused the Villain's Offer, and was determined to wait the Return of the Family to Town, which did not happen for one Year: After their Arrival, he waited for Sir R——w's walking in the Park, where, so soon as Sir R——w saw him, he with freedom, the constant Companion of an honest and generous Heart, thanked him for his great Skill, Care, and Expedition. Mr. S——h bowed, but looked dejected; on which Sir R——w immediately asked him, if he was not paid? He told him the whole Truth; and was ordered to attend the next Morning, and assured of being admitted without any Ceremony. When Mr. Steward was confronted by the Evidence of two Persons, who had overheard what had passed between Mr. S——h and him, Sir R——w asked him how he came to place that among the paid Bills? His Excuse was, it was a Mistake, and begged Pardon. Sir R——w, (without the least Hesitation) dismissed him, and not only paid Mr. S——h his whole Bill, but generously gave him Five Guineas for lying a Year out of his Money.

I myself once lived in the Family of Sir *Paul Worthby*, Baronet. I can scarce find Words to express



express my Sense of that Gentleman's Worth, and to give a Character of him due to his Merit.

When I was so happy as first to see him, it required but little Penetration to find, that there was something of an innate Goodness and Honesty in that Gentleman's Heart, which I cannot describe; when he hired me, he was at his Country-seat in *O———*. His Manner of Expression, though to so mean a Servant as a Coachman, had something so inexpressibly sweet and winning in it, that I plumed myself with a Prospect of many coming Years of Happiness, and found my Desire to serve him arose, not only from a Sense of Duty and Interest, but, if I may be allowed the Expression, a Kind of *reverential Love*.

I stayed at his House two Days with a Set of Hackney-horses, that were sent for by him to draw his Servants to Town; I made all the Observations I could in that Time of the Customs and Oeconomy of a large, well-governed Family; Peace and Plenty, without waste or superfluity, crowned the Board; and I could observe but one Countenance, among the whole, but what wore a Chearfulness, equal to the good Intent of the generous Provider of all the Blessings each enjoyed. *That one*, Devil like, was then forming Schemes to subvert all that Harmony. This Man was of a dark, melancholic Complexion, flow of Words, and, tho' of little or no Education, had a Subtilty in him, that found a Way afterwards to work himself into the intire Confidence of my gene-

rous

rous Master, and upon his Arrival in Town, procured to himself the whole Management of the Family : Upon the Road, this Man being one of my Passengers, behaved to me with such Kindness, that I could not but blame myself for the Antipathy I had conceived against him, and endeavoured all I could to overcome it, but to no Purpose. We were six Days on the Journey ; yet, though he became more familiar to me, I could not conquer my first Dislike ; and what increased my Vexation was, that this very Man was recommended to me by my Predecessor as a Person, in whom an entire Confidence might be placed. I afterwards found, to my inexpressible Sorrow, that my Observation at first Sight was juster than his Opinion, strengthened by nigh twelve Months Intimacy : Two or three Days after the Servants came to Town, Sir *Paul* and his Lady arrived ; and the next Day I had the Care of the Stable delivered to me. In a few Days, Sir *Paul* bought in Eight fresh Horses, and being in the Stable, this Man came to him, with a Plan of his own drawing for the better Regulation of his Family, and, among other Articles, read to me, that the Helper was to be two Hours in a Day in the House, to clean the Steward's Room, the Knives, lay their Cloth, and wait on them at Dinner. My Master, Sir *Paul*, seemed a little surprized ; but as he made no Answer by way of Objection, I thought he acquiesced with this famous Plan ; therefore I said not one Word, but plainly foresaw what would be

be the Consequence, as the Lad he appointed for this Place was a raw Country Boy, and on that Account the fitter for the Business allotted him. I own it gave me a little Uneasiness, as I well knew that eight Horses, three Carriages, (one of them a very fine Town-chariot) and two Pair of superb Town-harnesses were Work sufficient for a Coachman, Helper, and Postilion, without one of the Boys being longer from it than was requisite to his Meals. However, as I was at Board-wages and had a good Lodging over the Stable, I concluded, that I must only work the harder. The next Thing set on Foot was to form a Steward's Table, which in reality consisted but of Four, the Valet, Himself, the House-keeper, and the Lady's Woman, tho' this Deficiency in Number was generally made up by Company, without which seldom a Day passed: Except these Four and myself, the rest of the Servants were intirely ignorant of the Town, and likewise unacquainted with the Meanness that was by Degrees introduced among them. The Country-Cook, who had long been used to dress substantial Meals, though well acquainted with the most elegant Entertainments that could be ordered, soon took her Leave, and returned from whence she came. The others continually were wishing to be at the old Mansion-house, and House-keeping; and finding Matters grew worse rather than better, one of the Maids took Courage, and applied to Mr. *Swebttam* for Redress;



dress ; his Answer was, the Motto I have given him, *Eat up your Pudding, and hold your Tongue.* The Girl retorted, As I have no Pudding to eat, I will not hold my Tongue ; so she was dismissed. As to my own Part, being at Board-wages, I had no Business in the House, but to receive my Orders from Sir *Paul*. The having them from himself (as he thought no Servant too mean to speak to) gave the first Offence, as by that Means, I prevented any Alteration that might for their own Purposes be made in them. However, this *Fac Totum* one Day gave himself some Airs in the Stable. I did not approve of such as, complaining I burnt too many Coals; finding fault with what he knew nothing of; and attempting to give Orders where I would not admit he had any Authority. On this, an open Rupture ensued, in which he got the better, and by the basest Insinuations persuaded Sir *Paul* to sell the Horses, and convert his Equipage into a Waiting-job. This he had Hopes of procuring to himself; but, as he knew nothing of the Business, could not do it without a Partner, and he thought his Power not sufficient to turn me from Driving; so that Project was laid aside, and the Horses sold to a very eminent Hackney-master, whose Servant I and the Boys then became. This News was no sooner made public at the Assembly-board, but Mrs. *Stretlaw* immediately dispatched a Messenger to my new Master with Orders for his Attendance on her. The Extensiveness  
of

of his Business making his Time very precious, he had not Opportunity immediately to obey the imperious Mandate. At length, tired with repeated Messages, he went; when behold ! all she wanted was, to tell him, that as the Servants were now his, it was incumbent on him to give one of the Boys positive Orders to wait at their Table, as usual. With his accustomed Good-nature he promised her Request should be comply'd with, tho' he could scarce refrain from Laughing, to see how assiduous she was to support her own Dignity.

Upon this Change in my Affairs, Sir *Paul* behaved to me with great Goodness and Generosity, giving me the Stable-furniture, and a free Permission for me and the Boys to have all our Diet in the House. I had not partook of his Bounty many Days, before Mrs. *Rem-rass*, upon my refusing to go on one of her Errands, told me, that my Admittance into the House was only upon Courtesy. This vexed me not a little, and having no Inclination to trouble Sir *Paul* with every Tale, as he had enough to do to hear theirs. I made as few Visits as possible into it: Eight Months past, during which Time, every Effort was tryed to get rid of me to no Purpose; 'till at last, they procured a mean-spirited Dependent on them to arrest me for a Debt, which I was not immediately able to pay, and which I was at first induced to contract by the deceitful Promises of Mr. *Swetham*. This compleated my  
F Ruin,

Ruin, and gained their Ends, I have never been able to get Access to Sir *Paul* since, and I make not the least Doubt, but all the Applications I made to him by Letters were intercepted; else I know his Generosity would not have permitted him to let me fall a Victim to their ill-grounded, and unjust Resentment for a Trifle.

I will give but one Instance more of their Pride and Barbarity, and then proceed to shew, that they are in themselves a dangerous, wicked, and useless Set of People. A stout Fellow of a Chairman, the other Day, brought a Load of Bottles into a Servant's Hall where I was waiting: Myself and others offered to help him down; but a *French* Butler, in as good *English* as he could speak, bid us desist, and ordered the Chairman to follow him to the Vault-door. It was so situated, that what pass'd was within hearing of the Hall. The Porter no sooner got to the Door, which he was obliged to hold open, but the rascally *Frenchman*, with a most imperious Tone, demanded why he did not pull off his Hat? The Man immediately answered; you must find me another Hand then; for one holds the Door, and the other the Basket, and if you was not blind, you must needs see, that I must take my Load off before I can my Hat: The *Frenchman*, after much Abuse, told him, that his Mistress should lose my Lord's Custom for his Insolence, and perhaps in that one Instance only he kept his Word. I



I must now, in Justice to my Subscribers, say, that I know none, of what Rank or Condition soever, but, on my Application to them for their Assistance in this Work; entreated me, that I would endeavour to set the Insolence of these our inveterate Enemies in a glaring Light. Alas! What can my poor Endeavours do, when those of the most eminent Authors, who have wrote on this Subject, not for Bread, but the Benefit of their Countrymen, have proved ineffectual? What signifies my telling a Nobleman, that the Person who has the Management of his whole Family, in his own Country, was incapable to provide himself Sustenance; and when he first arrived here, could not write his own Name; though now entrusted to account for Thousands? What is it has given them this Authority, but a mean Insinuation into their Patron's Favour, by a servile Compliance with, and Introduction into his juvenile Gratifications? This is known to be true, and I fear beyond my Power to have redress.

I am now come to the main Point, namely, to shew, that the general Assembly of what is called the Second, or Steward's Table, according to the present Method, are not only useless, but very pernicious; and to do this, I shall mention their several Titles, and give my Reasons why I think them so; and happy shall I be, if any one Nobleman acquiesces in my Way of Thinking!

They consist, in many Families where I have been conversant, of the following Number.

Males.

The Land-steward,  
The House-steward,  
The Clerk of the Kitchen,  
The Clerk of the Stables,  
The Butler,  
The Groom of the Chambers,  
The *French* Valet,  
The *French* Cook.

Females.

The House-keeper,  
The Lady's Woman.

According to this Plan, I must begin with the Land-steward. The Business designed for him by my Lord is, to inspect into his Estates; to see what Repairs are wanting that his Lordship is obliged to make good; to collect his Rents, and take care properly to distrain, when a Tenant is unable to pay; in Case of a House, or Farm, being uninhabited, to provide a proper Tenant; to make Enquiries after the Character and Abilities of those who offer to enter therein; to keep a sufficient Quantity of Cash by him, or place the same out to Interest; always to be ready on any Emergency, whether to supply an immediate Occasion which his Lord may have,

or

or to make an advantageous Purchase in the vicinity of his estate; he should be well versed in the laws of his country; understand the mensuration of land and timber; the proper culture of the one, if it falls into hand, and the proper growth of the other, when to sell, and dispose of. He should understand the holding courts, and be thoroughly acquainted with the custom of all manors, where his Lord has any interest: He should be endued, not only with almost an universal knowledge of men and things; but with every virtue. He should have judgment to discern when it is proper to exert his authority with the utmost rigour, or use compassion, as occasion may offer; to mingle mercy with justice. He should take the utmost care to place all concerns in a true light before his Lord, and never permit prejudice or interest to bias him in any representation he makes him. In short, he should be a man of worth and honour. Thus I have shewn what this man ought to be. And now I will shew what the major part, who fill this place of the utmost consequence, in themselves really are.

Interest is the standard of all their actions; self is their first and only principle; and how to deceive without being detected is their only care. Instead of supplying necessary repairs, the matter is what particular person can be employed, in order to bring the most grist to their mill. Work hid underground, where



no surveyor can be employed, is what they chiefly aim at. What they advance must then be allowed, and to come at the proof of it will be equal expence to the first charge. In the collecting of Rents, is it his care to do it at proper times, and with moderation? No! If a man of substance, where he knows the money is safe, will but give him  $\frac{1}{4}$  per Cent. more than he can make of it, if in his own hands, there it may lay. If a poor man has nothing to give him for forbearance, he shall be immediately seized on, and his whole family as well as himself be totally ruined. If a vacancy happens in an advantageous house, or farm, what is the first care? Not the worth of the tenant who offers, but who will give him the most money to get them the bargain. How many instances have there been of these sort of men lending their masters their own money, by the means of a third person whom they employ, who receive both principal and interest, and then return it.

With relation to his knowledge of the law, there is not one in ten, who act in this capacity, that know more of it than to give orders to bring an action against a poor wretch for having a gun in his possession, or keeping a dog. If land is to be measured, or timber valued, they pretend, that, for want of practice, they have forgot what they never knew, and thro' an outside shew of parsimony, recommend a country-carpenter, instead of a surveyor of skill

skill and integrity, who is a person they abominate. If a farm happens to fall in hand, they find some poor farmer, who perhaps they have been the cause of undoing, to undertake the management of it, whose judgment he takes to himself, while the man is only paid as a day-labourer. A little matter of application makes him perfect in the customs of one or two particular manors. If on a dearth, the harriot happens to be the best beast, &c. then he rejoices, taking care to be well paid for what he pretends is owing to his Lord's compassion and humanity. To deceive with security is the summit of his knowledge; and he makes hypocrisy supply the place of virtue. If he exercises rigour, it is on those who cannot shun it by paying him. If he exercises mercy, it is only to those, who in a small time can pay him: All things are represented to his Lord in a manner he thinks the best for his own security, and his only bias is his own interest. Virtue and honour to him are only words, and merit's wealth.

I hope this will shew I judged right, when I gave him the motto of *trust me with caution*; and I also hope many will think fit not to trust him at all. How must his place be supplied? As none but those of great estates have any reason to ask me this question, I almost tremble, when I think how I shall give an answer to it; but, with the lowest submission, I will attempt one, that seems to me to be quite

quite to the question: I may venture to say, there are many, a great many practitioners of the law, who are men of sound judgment, great learning, and of the strictest, nay spotless integrity. Every one of these are real gentlemen by their profession and education, that puts them above the thought of a mean act. All matters that may be in dispute by means of law will at once be set in a clear light by one of these gentlemen; and the defending or carrying on a suit be advised, not from a thirst of profit, but from a judgment whether the matter in itself be right or wrong. Conveyances will be made upon the advice of good council, and not in such a manner as to cut out a law-suit, by which the third generation may be ruined. Leases will be fairly drawn, according to the mutual intent of both landlord and tenant: Reasonably paid for, and when the landlord's consent is obtained for a new one, no exorbitant demand made for a renewal.

This I think is sufficient to prove the landsteward is of no use, as a lawyer: As to his care about repairs, I am sure there are honest tradesmen of all denominations. Let one of them be employed, each in his separate calling; if afterwards he is doubted, employ a surveyor; he can have no interest in being partial, and of course will do justice on both sides. As to receiving of rents, I would have every man of fortune receive his own; he will then  
be



be a judge, upon hearing the complaints of a necessitous person, how far he thinks it prudent to remit him a part which he is not able to pay, and whether to forgive or punish him. He will then have his cash in his own hands, or his banker's; and if he has occasion for more than in his own possession, knows where to borrow, without borrowing his own. A little application will make any gentleman master of the value of his own and other lands; and the greatest of the antients did not think the study of agriculture a mean one. I could say much more on this head, but am fearful of offending—the Lord, not the steward.

I am now come to the second of this class, namely, the house-steward; what he ought to be, I know not; for I know no occasion there is for one; but what they all are I know, and will place them in a light as true as odious. So soon as he takes possession of his inquisition-chair, a strict obedience is what he exacts from every dependent. The more immediate ones are the menial servants, of whom I have given an account before.

The next are the separate tradesmen, who supply the family. These I really pity, and perhaps with sympathy, as I am the son of one. Tho' I never was so happy as to know my father; yet I have heard he had dealings with but one nobleman's family, whom he soon persuaded to be his own steward, and he continued so to the day of his death, as is well known in the county of *Surry*. I mean the late Lord

*E—α* Now those tradesmen, who serve under one of these substitutes, have little or no opportunity of displaying either their abilities or integrity. The coach-maker has the best chance. But one of that trade, to my knowledge, either by force or choice, took his principal instructions from Mr. *Swetham*; tho' Sir *Paul* did not want for taste in equipage, and the world does not afford a more punctual pay-master, in spite of all endeavours to make him otherwise. I say, a tradesman must take his instructions from the steward; he pretends to have them from his Lord, when, alas! they are contrived only for his profit or convenience. But chiefly to give an opportunity to complain, when the bill is brought in. All the poor man has to alledge is, that it was done according to his orders; the other denies it, and the tradesman, by woeful experience, knows where the dispute must end. Admit a man has spirit enough to attempt an application to a superior, how must he get admittance? He dares not thrust himself at once into the presence, and is sure not to be admitted by the delinquent: If a letter is sent, both hand and seal is closely examined; if the writer can't be found out by that, then it is candled; if that don't do, a fresh impression and a hot tobacco-pipe. The letter don't please; 'tis burnt, and there's an end of it.

This is a woeful state a man of business is in, and one of these wretches finds twice the account in living in a family where the master spends

spends rather above his income, than with one who lives within it. To the first, he has an opportunity of displaying his oeconomy, by advising him to spare one shilling per day in a really necessary, and encourage him to spend ten shillings in a superfluity. In the first case, there is a shew of reason for deferring a tradesman's payment; but where a gentleman is known to live within compass, the threats that a man shall lose the custom is the most prevalent. I have before mentioned many arts of this class of gentlemen, therefore shall conclude my account of him by saying, if I am asked how his place is to be supplied, that there is but one way to do it, and that is, by the nobleman, or gentleman's looking into his own affairs, paying his own money, and giving orders to his tradesmen himself; then, if a piece of work don't entirely depend on fancy, his judgment will be enlarged, and mechanism, which is a very entertaining study, be improved.

The clerk of the kitchen is the next: He can't properly be called a steward, being accountable to one himself; I mean, in affairs of money; but his place requires great skill. To manage with prudence, he must be acquainted with all the frauds committed in the provision for the whole family, as well as what is sent to the families that are maintained out of doors; he must know when improper, or unwholesome food is allotted for the support of the servants in general, instead of a



sufficiency of good and wholesome: He must have a hand in regulating the bills of butchers, poulterers, fishmongers, and green-grocers. It is impossible that the house-steward can carry on any schemes without him; and he himself is equally jealous of the cook; more especially, if he happens to be a *Frenchman*; as he, at any time, can have an audience.

We ought even to pity, if we don't help our very enemies, and I really think, that this poor devil wants it, however he may deserve a great deal of pity. He is like the flying fish, has enemies below and above him; if he quits his own element, a bird of prey waits for him; if he returns to it, a fish of prey. In this same situation is this wretch of a clerk; he dreads both those above and below him, and I know not, if the punishment he continually feels by his crimes be not almost sufficient atonement for them: Unless he fulfils the motto I have given him, he cannot long subsist, and therefore I have ranked him with, and made a triple union between the other two and himself.

These are all I can properly call *Stewards*; how this last is to have his place supply'd, I shall shew at large, when I come to treat on the *English* cook. If what I have said be not sufficient to prove what I assert, that they are useless, I shall take the Liberty to repeat a Conversation which I once heard between two Noblemen of equal Rank and Fortune. I was driving in the cool of the summer's evening

ing over that beautiful spot of *Green-sward*, that lays between *Upton* and *Gloucester*, called the *Long-Lawn*, the Weather being quite serene, I was ordered to put down the head of the landau and go gently. I obeyed, and unavoidably heard the following discourse. One of the noblemen was father-in-law to the other: The son began; My Lord, I have often thought what can be the reason, that you never want money, pay every body with regularity, and at any Time are ready to supply me, or any of your acquaintance, with large Sums. My estate is equal to yours, my equipage no larger; I have no children; don't game, nor indulge myself in any one expensive vice; and yet I cannot make both ends meet; and am sometimes compelled to lay myself under obligations. The father replied; my Lord, I have a *place*, that you know nothing of. The son surprized, remonstrated to him, that he well remembered a caution he had given him, never to think of repairing his Estate, at the expence of his country, by accepting of any place. To which the father replied; my dear son, you are not fit for the place I enjoy. When you are satiated with pleasure and variety, and come to have children about you, they will by nature excite your regard for them; then you will be fit for the place I fill, but not 'till then. The Son intreated him, with earnestness, only to let him know what the place was. At last, the worthy, old L——d answered, *I am my own Steward*, and

and when I came to my journey's End, I experienced the truth of it; for he rewarded me nobly.

The Clerk of the Stables must now be considered: His use is to act as Purveyor, and see that the servants under him do the business he commands; he ought to be a judge of hay, corn, straw, physic, roads, carriages, horses, and the intire decorum of stables, with regard to race-horses, hunters, coach-horses, and hacks. A man of this universal knowledge is scarce to be found: I have been concerned with several, and the use of the Pen by themselves, or others, has ever been the principal care upon their spirits, except to model their subalterns to their own minds. The practices used to gain that end, I have before taken notice of, *and join with me, and be content* is their whole aim.

I am now to shew, that they are of no use. A running-groom is supposed from a child to be brought up in that capacity: He who is constantly with his horses, must be better acquainted with their separate constitutions and abilities, than one, who only out of state sees them once a day; of hunters the same; coach-horses and hacks the same: If a running-groom may be intrusted with the care of a horse worth 500*l.* sure he may be intrusted to buy his provision; he for his own Reputation will take care it shall be good; and soon: If a coachman is fit to be intrusted by day and night with the lives of a whole family, sure he may be



be intrusted to provide for the maintaining his horses: If one of these clerks be employed, it must be only humanity that can induce the coachman to look into the several parts of his carriage, which he, by a long experience, knows most liable to accident or wear. What does a broken taylor, or hair-cutter, know of all this? Does he endeavour to understand wheels, axletrees, clouts, linspins, braces, and the dependent uses of each to support the whole: If one of these creatures be employed, as I said before, nothing but humanity can be the coach-man's inducement to care, and if he don't take care, what must be the consequence? Oh! but some will say, his appearance will keep them in their business, and his authority is a check to their honesty. If a man has a mind to be a rogue, all the checks in the—— will not keep him honest; if a Lord and his family is going a journey upon pleasure, or the recovery of health, what can one of these creatures tell him of stages, inns, and cross-country roads, and accommodations? He will sometimes condescend, that he may not appear quite ignorant, to ask a coachman's Opinion; but may the D——l, say I, take the man in that station that gives it him: His chief knowledge consists in the road from *London* to the country-seat; upon that, he knows the inns, which the same family have used for a succession of years, and with the more ease can play his own pranks.

I have now got thro' the *Stewards* of all Denominations, and whether I starve or get a place, I will never have but one master; him I will, to my utmost ability, honour and serve; and I flatter myself, there may be some yet left, who upon a stricter Enquiry into my character may venture to take me according to this determination.

I come now to the *Butler*. He is one much courted and respected; but believe me, brethren, all you have from him *must be as you oblige him*. His knowledge in wines, and care to keep them in order, is the principal use he is of. This might be in the power of a decay'd vintner to do; but I cannot, for the soul of me, conceive, how a shoe-maker from *Wales* should know any thing of the matter. His being out of livery is of small consequence; but, I think, neither his being in, or out of livery, will make no difference in the taste of the wine. But be that as it may, so he has but his garter and cork-screw, and dines with the rest of the servants, I am contented. Yes! but then who must take care of the wine? It must not stand unlock'd sure. A footman may be as honest as he; let him have the key both of that and the ale. I knew a man of fortune, who had no lock to his ale-cellar door. I was at his house some months, and never saw one servant drunk. The reason was, each knew, if his master saw him so, he would never more darken his door; but to go out of it. Good liquor was made for the use

use of man; excess makes the abuse, and I fancy any gentleman would rather his servants, who had been for hours in the wet and cold, should be comforted with a glass of it, than to have it, by bottles at a time, sent to regale a sweetheart of his Butler's.

The *Groom of the Chambers* comes next. I have before acknowledged, that I know very little of his employ; but by all the enquiry I can make, he is of no other use than to take upon him the business of an upholsterer. Unless he has been brought up to that trade I think he can know but little of the matter; however, as I believe it will be allowed, that he is kept more for shew than use, I hope he will be dismissed.

Now for my *French Valet*. His excellence in shaving, and dressing hair is the only excuse that is made for keeping him; but that is but a small part of the many uses he applies himself to. He is absolute master of flattery and invention; he employs both to soothe his Lord into a good opinion of, and confidence in him; by an easy access to him, he seizes upon his unguarded minutes, and lets slip no opportunity of taking all advantages: By having the care of his cloaths, he has an opportunity of searching his pockets. If by accident he finds a letter, or memorandum, of any consequence to his country-men, he takes care to give the earliest information thereof; he watches not only his words, but motions, and while he is thought by his as-

H

fidelity



fidelity to be doing no more than his duty to his Lord, his own thoughts are employed how he may do service to his Lord's enemies. He is perpetually extolling the skill and œconomy of his country-man the *Cook*; and not a word passes from him, but has a tendency either to introduce more of his own Nation into the family, or to depreciate the merit of the *English* servants that are in it: Those, of them, with whom he has any connection, or the least authority over, he uses with the utmost rigour and Insolence: In short, he is a dangerous domestick: how frequently does he wear his Lord's cloaths, and take upon him his title! How many of them, before the late act of parliament, made a common practice of even pawning the most sumptuous apparel. If they are honest, it is impossible they should support, by any moderate salary, the monstrous expences they are at; they take the most expensive pleasures; such as Operas, Plays, &c. They are obliged to contribute towards the fund for supporting their country-men out of place, which is a very considerable charge; for they must not only be fed, but well cloathed; for else they stand but a poor chance to get another service, into which, so soon as they are initiated, they must immediately become dishonest in order to reimburse the society. They can do no labour. I believe no one ever saw a *Frenchman* carry a hod, or screen gravel; if he falls, therefore, into disgrace, he depends intirely

intirely on the support of those in favour. After he is once acquainted with an *English* belly-full, he is loth to return to his own country, where he must feed on frogs and salad. I sincerely wish that some gentleman of consequence could have the same opportunity that I have had of being at a house by the *Seven-Dials* (the constant rendezvous of these discarded miscreants) and see them dressed in lace and embroidery, waiting 'till their sustenance was brought to them. If an *Englishman* be out of place, tho' brought up to no trade, and finds he cannot immediately get one, rather than induce his friends to rob their masters to support him, he can turn his hand to many employs, at least laborious ones; for he had rather work than starve; which these had not. Is it not a most scandalous thing to see so many of our country-men, that are well qualified to fill these *Frenchmen's* places, submitting to the most slavish employs, just to keep life and soul together, when these rascals are pampered with the most luxurious dainties? If it was not for the countenance given them by their superiors, they durst not exert that authority which they have, by the greatest baseness, assumed.

Many of the Nobility, having experienced these truths, have parted with them, which makes those that are now employed the more dangerous; for, as before observed, they must support those that are out, which at this time are very numerous. Some of them, I

own are so ashamed of their Country, as to disown it; yet as their manner of speech won't permit them to call themselves of ours, they pass for *Swiss*, or *Germans*, but that is easily seen thro'. However, be that as it may, to remove all danger of being deceived by them, employ an *Englishman* in this station. There are many of them in livery can shave, dress, and do the whole business of a valet, equal to the best *Swiss*, *German*, or *Frenchman* in the world; but then the title is lost. If you ask what employ that servant in livery has in the family? The answer is, in plain *English*, he shaves, and dresses my Lord; but that is not half so soft and pretty, as to say, when you enquire; pray, who is that fine gentleman in the embroidered coat? He is my Lord's valet. This is the only reason I can think of for the latter having the preference.

I have placed the *French Cook* the last in rank, tho', I believe, where one is employed, he is most commonly the first in favour of any of these gentlemen who are the subject of my discourse. His method of insinuation, and his other practices are exactly upon the same plan as the *Valet's*, tho' his field for mischief is more extensive: His employ has an immediate connection with the lives of a whole family, which he may destroy two ways, either by poison or starving. As to the first, I have already given hint sufficient; as to the latter, the method he takes to accomplish that is mysterious, dark, and intricate. I would  
not



not have it thought, that I mean to starve a whole family to death. My meaning is, the depriving them of the proper sustenance to support a robust and hardy life: I think no one but an Epicure would keep a Cook of this Sort. So soon as he has found how to please the palate of his master, he immediately becomes absolute, and a daily consultation with him is necessary. He takes care to provide the essence only of food, and persuades his Lord, that the substance thereof is of too gross a nature. To see one of these rascals mangle, and cut to pieces one hundred weight of such meat as would make soup for a thousand of his country-men, and such as, in his own country, he never saw extracted from the nicest parts thereof, of which he pretends to be a judge, one single dish is enough to shock any man. This is the common practice; for the height of their excellence lies in their extravagance; and no matter what the food tastes of, provided it be but an expensive dish. If a nobleman, who lived in the days of *Q. Elizabeth*, could possibly set down to a modern table, where a *French* Cook makes the bill of fare, and dresses the dinner, he would be at a loss to read the one, and I am sure would be very careful how he helped himself to any part of the other. A surloin of beef must not come to table, 'till it has undergone such a variety of mutations, that no one can tell what it is; and so many additions of sauce, that it is intirely deprived of its natural flavour; which, with its own gravy, is certainly

ly

ly the best sauce in the world. A roasted leg of mutton, in its proper shape, would offend the sight, and the smell of it take away the stomach; but the Pope's eyes of fifty make a mighty pretty side-dish. Instead of the dinner being brought to table on dishes, saucers supply the place of them; and a good dinner of flesh, fish, and fowl, in its proper shape and taste, must not be expected, if a *Frenchman* be the cook.

If the Lord, who does no labour, must be fed on this kind of diet, what must the servants, who work hard, expect? How must they go through their several callings with strength and activity, when their food is only a repetition of the scraps from whence these essences are extracted. The legs of mutton find their way to the *Seven-dials* without eyes.—So much for Monsieur *Ragout*, though the last, not the least villain among them.

The females come next under my consideration; and first, Mrs. *House-keeper*. I think, I have before acknowledged her to be of use; if I have not, I now do, and shall very shortly place her and the *English Cook* in such a situation, that, unless she be indued with the pride, ignorance, meanness, and deceit of my old acquaintance Mrs. *Stretlaw*, she will not be angry with me.

My dear *Lady's Woman*, Mrs. *Remraff*, must now come on the carpet. If the high veneration which I have for ladies of all ranks did not confine my pen, how copious a subject have

have I now to expatiate on ! But be cautious, let not resentment get the better of prudence and good manners ! Oh ! That this check I put upon myself may be sufficient to displace this lump of deceit and hypocrisy from the confidence of every one ! I will immediately find one to supply her place. As to her offices about a Lady's person, a cherry-cheek'd country girl will put on her shoes and stocking, lace her stays, &c. equally as well, as a pale-faced, half-bred, fantastical creature, fit only to fill her head with vapours and lies. The only objection is, she cannot be a converseable creature. The extent of Mrs. *Remrass*'s genius in conversation reaches no farther than calumny, and to acquaint her Lady at what shop the last Lady she lived with bought her paint.

There is no joy equal to the being constantly with a person to whom, without the least reserve, one may open the most secret recesses of ones heart ; and I believe, that the Ladies feel this with the highest satisfaction, when they meet with one of their own sex, fit for this confidence. How many persons of moderate fortunes and good education would think themselves happy in the intimacy, and friendship of a Lady of superior rank, whose extensive affluence would give them an opportunity of partaking of many enjoyments which their own fortune, tho' perhaps a genteel one, won't admit ? Such a one, by being a constant companion both at home, abroad, and at table, to



a Lady, would be respected by every one, and of course, having no sort of connection with the lower servants, could never let any thing transpire that should be committed to her in secrecy. And, as I before observed, I again repeat, that many things have been communicated to me, thro' the channel of a Lady's woman with whom I was once intimate, that no bribe should induce me to make public; my business being to expose the woman, not her Lady.

Having set forth, I hope, in a satisfactory manner, what every one of the different sort of people I made the subject of my discourse ought to be, and what they really are, I now humbly propose my own scheme, and shall attempt to shew, which among them are really necessary; and those are two; namely, the *House-keeper*, and the *English Cook*. The character of both should first be strictly enquired into, and received from the mouth of those whom they have served in that capacity. When the *House-keeper* is met with whose character answers, there will be no danger of placing a confidence in her; and to distrust her would in itself be bad. She should be a woman of prudence, good-nature, and œconomy; not of a mean, nor lavish disposition; but one, who understands a due medium between both. Such a one will know the wants of those under her, and take care they shall be supplied with what is proper. She will provide a sufficiency; but not a superfluity.

She

She will allow plenty, but not waste: The maid-servants will be more immediately under her direction, and every one fulfil her requests for her Lord and Lady's benefit, without a single servant being appropriated for her own use. She will supply the men with what they want, that is committed to her care, and keep a due decorum in the family. She will take no more state upon her, than what becomes her; and by that means, attract every one's love, not their envy. When it is necessary to replenish any of the stock she has the disposal of, she will acquaint her Lady, who will give orders what tradesmen to go to; and when they bring their bills, will make a representation to her Lady likewise, who will, without doubt, immediately order them to be paid. All this may be done with very little trouble; and if she fulfils her duty according to these rules, I will excuse her from her solli-tair of Keys.

The *Englist Cook* is the next useful servant. His character must likewise be enquired into; but not accepted of, unless received from the mouth, or under the hand of those he has before served (a character from a steward, or clerk of a kitchen, will not be sufficient.) He should be a man of thorough knowledge in his profession, capable of forming a bill of fare, and dressing it when approved of. He should be well versed in what is a sufficiency for the support of the family which he is to provide

for, be they more or less in number. He should also be a judge of the goodness of each sort of provisions for which he goes to market; and as he will every day have an opportunity of being admitted to the presence of his Lord, he will have it in his power to recommend such things as are more immediately in season. There will then be no juggling about bills. All tradesmen will know the time of payment, and the money will come thro' but one hand to them: Let him and the House-keeper sit at the upper-end of the table, with the rest of the servants, they will then see, that they cut fair, and eat all, as the old roast-beef saying was; and if the Lord has a charitable heart, let the remainder be given to the real necessitous poor, and not set by for a parcel of hanging-on relations in ruffles; (as is now the case) or kept for an expected entertainment, till it is unwholesome, and then given to the lower servants to eat. By this means, every one will have his meal hot, decent, and in good time to set about his business again; not to have to wait two hours, after his Lord has dined, for his dinner; by which time his Lord wants him, and then he is forced to go without one. An instance of this sort once happened at a private gentleman's house, in the country, of large fortune, where I was. The footman, being ordered to attend his Lady to a neighbouring visit, drank but one horn of ale, which, on an empty stomach, in-



intoxicated him. Being severely reprimanded, he told his master the whole truth, who immediately sent for all the self-created quality, and demanded to know by whose authority they had taken on themselves that dignity of dividing tables in his house, without his orders. They stood mute as fishes, when he told them, one and all, that, if they intended to continue with him, they should dine either with the rest of the servants, or after them, which they chose, and should wait on themselves.

Such a Cook and House-keeper as I have recommended, I am sure, will not be displeased with the Place at table I have given them. If they are, they are not fit for the place they are to fill. Nay, since my design of making this Affair public has been talked of, I was by chance in company with an *English* Cook, who did not know me to be the author, who told me, that he was looked upon with as much contempt in the Steward's room, as the author of the book could desire; and that during the twelve months, which he had been in the place, he had drank but four glasses of wine with them; because, at his first coming, he had refused to rise from table to prepare a particular dish for an acquaintance of my Lady's woman, who dropt in by accident. And at Sir *Paul Worthy's* I have known the lower servants wait a third hour for company's dining.

ing, who came in after the gentry, in the Steward's room, had dined.

This work drawing near to an end, there remains now but one thing to fulfil my proposals ; and that is, an earnest request to all men of great fortunes to be their own Stewards. I hope I have pretty plainly demonstrated the necessity there is, that they should be so ; and as advantage is a great motive to almost every man to pursue a thing that may be a little against his inclination, certainly I have shewn, that what I request will be to theirs. A little time spared from even fatiguing pleasures will be sufficient for them to exercise this duty unto themselves and family ; and I am sure the secret satisfaction that will arise in every man's breast when he recollects how many people he makes happy by so doing, will be an ample reward.

Having been so explicit in my account of other people, I suppose it will be expected, that I should give some of myself. The little I shall say on that head shall be strictly true, and I will not in the least spare the *last* to my own faults and follies, any more than I have to those of others.

Know then, that I am the son of an eminent tradesman, whose credit, when living, was undoubted, and whose memory is respected by all that knew him. My name I shall conceal, out of regard to my family, who now live in the highest reputation. I was at fourteen

teen weeks old left to the care of those, who spared no pains in qualifying me for a business to which they placed me at the age of fourteen years. I had not long been at that, when I found that at the age of twenty-one, I was to receive my paternal fortune, which was a competency to lay the foundation of a great estate, if improved by a proper application to the business I was placed to. The knowledge that I had a chance to be *something* soon reduced me to *nothing*.

I became acquainted with a man, much superior to me in age and fortune, and consequently better acquainted with the pleasures and vices of the town than I was; for, indeed, at that time, I knew no vice, nor had any pleasure but in my proper employment. It was not long before he made me as wise and wicked as himself; and I know not a single vice, that carried no capital punishment with it, but what I fell into; my principal study was how to pay an equal *Quota* with him on all parties, that I then thought were of pleasure. To do which, I soon found some *fifty per cent. men*. I immediately threw off the protection of, and all obedience to those, who only could help and advise me; *viz.* my nearest and dearest relations, and one of the best of masters that ever apprentice had, and suffered myself to be perpetually at the beck of my destroyer. We never parted till I wanted his help, and then he threw off the masque. Friendship



ship and all engagements cease, as times and seasons vary. That was the villain's answer to me, who had consumed thousands on, and with him. When I came of age, I found my patrimony scarce sufficient to pay what I had iniquitously contracted, during my minority. However, it all went for that purpose. I was deservedly deserted by my friends, for having first deserted them, and their councils; and had now recourse to nothing but labour to support myself. Driving being a mighty pleasure to my false friend, he engaged me in no small expence to procure it him; and I soon took a great fancy to it myself, and arrived at a tolerable perfection in it: Therefore, when I came to earn my own bread, I determined it should be in that way. I had several hackney-masters; but my last was a very eminent one at St. James's end of the town, for whom I drove road-work till he died; and whose favours to me while he lived, I shall never forget. That place introduced me to the chief knowledge of what I have been relating, by having a succession of these people committed to my care, from the many families of rank he had the honour to serve; and I still live in hopes to get my bread as

A COACHMAN.

